

California Rehabilitation Oversight Board

January 14, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Don Perata President pro Tempore State Capitol, Room 205 Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Gloria Romero Majority Leader State Capitol, Room 313 Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Dick Ackerman Minority Leader State Capitol, Room 305 Sacramento, CA 95814 Assembly Member Fabian Nunez Speaker State Capitol, Room 219 Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Member Sally Lieber Speaker pro Tempore State Capitol, Room 3013 Sacramento, Ca 95814

Assembly Member Karen Bass Majority Floor Leader State Capitol, Room 319 Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Member Michael Villines Minority Floor Leader State Capitol, Room 3104 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor and Legislative Leaders:

The Public Safety and Offender Rehabilitation Services Act of 2007 (Assembly Bill 900) established the California Rehabilitation Oversight Board (C-ROB) within the Office of the Inspector General. C-ROB's 11-member board is made up of state and local law enforcement, education, treatment, and rehabilitation professionals who are mandated to regularly examine and report on rehabilitative programming provided by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to the inmates and parolees under its supervision.

C-ROB held its first meeting on June 19, 2007 and submitted its introductory report to the Governor and the Legislature on July 15, 2007, as required by statute. This document, which represents the Board's first substantive report, is based primarily on information provided by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation at the five public meetings held since the Board's inception.

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This report commends the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for committing to an evidence-based rehabilitative treatment model, as recommended by the Expert Panel on Adult Offender and Recidivism Reduction Programming in their report to the Legislature in June 2007. This report also notes that CDCR has taken some important first steps toward implementing this model. For example, the Department has begun conducting risk assessments on inmates when they arrive at reception and prior to their release on parole.

However, the report also raises concerns regarding the status of CDCR's rehabilitative programming efforts. Specifically, the report cites the need for a comprehensive and integrated plan dedicated specifically to improving rehabilitative programming. As just one example, this plan must outline how and when the assessments that are currently being conducted will be translated into case management plans and ultimately how they will result in increased rehabilitative programming for inmates and parolees.

While C-ROB has been impressed by the level of cooperation it has received from departmental representatives, ultimately this report is limited by the scope of information that CDCR was able to provide to the Board. The Department must provide C-ROB with detailed information, particularly concerning its planning efforts, in order for future reports to effectively capture the information that C-ROB is mandated to report.

While C-ROB recognizes that correctional change will take time, the Board is also aware that there have been multiple attempts over the years to improve California's correctional system. Unfortunately, many of these efforts did not survive the passage of time. The state cannot afford to fail in its current reforms. C-ROB is determined to vigilantly monitor and support these efforts until California has successfully implemented a sustainable and effective rehabilitative treatment model.

As the Chair of the California Rehabilitation Oversight Board, I submit this report for your review. On behalf of the Board, I invite your feedback, as well as feedback from members of the public as we strive to improve this process.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW L. CATE

Matthew Z Carle

Chairman

Enclosure

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cc: Office of the Governor

Susan Kennedy, Chief of Staff

Dan Dunmoyer, Cabinet Secretary

Andrea Hoch, Legal Affairs Secretary

Adam Mendelsohn, Communications Secretary

Robert Gore, Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4, State Administration

Assembly Member Juan Arambula

Assembly Member Paul Cook

Assembly Member Chuck DeVore

Assembly Member Mary Hayashi

Assembly Member Gene Mullin

Assembly Member Sandre Swanson

Assembly Member John Laird

Assembly Member Roger Niello

Assembly Committee on Public Safety

Assembly Member Jose Solorio

Assembly Member Greg Aghazarian

Assembly Member Joel Anderson

Assembly Member Hector De La Torre

Assembly Member Fiona Ma

Assembly member Anthony Portantino

Assembly Select Committee on Prison Construction & Operations

Assembly Member Todd Spitzer

Assembly Member Anthony Adams

Assembly Member Anna Marie Cabellero

Assembly Member Mike Feuer

Assembly Member Jared Huffman

Assembly Member Nicole Parra

Janus Norman, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Budget Committee

Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 4, State Administration

Senator Michael Machado

Senator Robert Dutton

Senator Christine Kehoe

Senate Public Safety Committee

Senator Don Perata

Senator Gloria Romero

Senator Gil Cedillo

Senator Dave Cogdill

Senator Bob Margett

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California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR)

David Runnels, Undersecretary, Operations Steven Kessler, Undersecretary, Program Support Kathy Jett, Undersecretary, Programs Oscar Hidalgo, Assistant Secretary, Office of Public & Employee Communications Carole Hood, Chief Deputy Secretary for Adult Programs Joyce Hayhoe, Assistant Secretary, Legislation

C-ROB Board Members James Tilton, Secretary, CDCR Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Debra Jones, Administrator, Adult Education Programs (Designee) Diane Woodruff, Interim Chancellor, California Community Colleges José Millan, Vice Chancellor (Designee) Renée Zito, Director, California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs Stephen Mayberg, Director, Department of Mental health Susan Turner, Professor, University of California, Irvine Bruce Bikle, Professor, California State University, Sacramento Michael Carona, Sheriff, Orange County Loren Buddress, Chief Probation Officer, San Mateo County William Arroyo, Regional Medical Director, Los Angeles County Dept. of Mental Health